



## Transitions Policy

At Ribbons Preschool we recognise that young children will experience many transitions in their early years; some of these planned and some unplanned. We are sensitive to the impact of such changes to children and this policy sets out the ways in which we support children going through these transitions.

Some examples of transitions that young children may experience are:

- Starting preschool
- Starting school or moving nurseries
- Family breakdowns
- New siblings
- Moving home
- Death of a family member or close friend
- Death of a family pet.

Staff are trained to observe their key children and as to be sensitive to any changes in their behaviour and personality. We respectfully ask that parents inform us of any changes in the home environment that may impact on their child so staff can be aware of the reasons behind any potential changes in the child's behaviour.

### **Starting preschool**

We recognise that starting preschool may be difficult for some children and their families. We have a settling in policy to support the child and their family.

### **Other early years providers**

Where children are attending other early years settings or are cared for by a childminder we will work with them to share relevant information about children's development. Where a child is brought to preschool or collected from preschool by a childminder we will ensure that key information is being provided to the child's parent by providing the information directly to the parent via email or telephone.

### **Family breakdowns**

We recognise that when parents separate it can be a difficult situation for all concerned. We have a separated families' policy that, shows how the preschool will act in the best interest of the child.

### **Moving home and new siblings**

We recognise that both these events may have an impact on a child. Normally, parents will have advance notice of these changes and we ask parents to let us know about these events so we can support the child to be prepared. The key worker will spend time talking to the

child and providing activities that may help the child to act out any worries they have, e.g. through role play, stories and discussions.

### **Bereavement**

We recognise that this may be a very difficult time for children and their families and have a separate policy on bereavement which we follow to help us offer support to all concerned should this be required.

If parents feel that their child requires additional support because of any changes in their life, we ask that you speak to the preschool manager and the key worker to enable this support to be put into place.

### **Covid 19**

**For any children going to school:** We will work together with all schools that children are going to and attempt to do all we can to help ease this transition, including making up school packs with photos of the teachers and building; reading stories, engaging in role play, setting up video calls, meetings and where possible visits. We will also work with parents to try to alleviate any worries and anxieties. This may mean working with the schools to extend the starting date.

- **Attending more than one setting: Updated 13 August, 2020** <https://gov.wales/protective-measures-childcare-settings-keep-childcare-safe>
- We know that for some families limiting a child to attending one setting will not always be possible due to family or work commitments. If a child attends more than one setting, for example school and wrap around or out of school childcare, the child should remain in the same, consistent group across both settings wherever possible. Where that is not possible, they should remain in consistent groups within both settings, and the school, provider and parents work together to manage the overall risks. For example, possible ways of grouping children in wrap around and out of school provision such as breakfast and after school clubs includes:
  - by class
  - by year group
  - by school
    - Where children need to attend more than one setting, parents, schools and settings will need to discuss these risks and consider how to manage them to reduce the spread of the virus. This will mean parents, schools and settings working in close partnership to consider fully how they can make provision work alongside their wider protective measures. Settings are reminded that discussions with parents on health matters are to remain confidential and information only shared if the parent or carer has agreed. Further information for [schools and settings](#) is available.

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Signed on behalf of the preschool: K.Watkins-Freeman

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